

Airwaves are the property of the public, and the media companies that use these airwaves therefore have an obligation to air content that serves the interest of the public, not it's own interests.

Sinclair Broadcasting has decided to force it's stations to preempt regular programming to air an electioneering ad that clearly represents their own interests, not those of the public at large. This is illegal and they should be held accountable for their actions. In addition, this clearly demonstrates that large media companies are willing to break the law if they feel that there is no accountability and if it serves their interests. By allowing Sinclair to pursue this course of action with no official recourse sets a very dangerous precedent that endangers the purpose of the media and puts it in the hands of a few very powerful people who will use it to serve their interests.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.